



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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LOS PEÑASQUITOS RECEIVES CONGRESS OF HISTORY AWARD “La Vida del Rancho” School Program Honored

Los Peñasquitos County Park received an Award of Merit from the Congress of History, a San Diego based historical organization dedicated to preserving local history, for its “La Vida del Rancho” school program that teaches fourth grade students about early nineteenth century San Diego ranch life.

Using the historic, County-owned Johnson/Taylor Adobe Ranch House in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve as the classroom, docent volunteers dressed in period attire teach students about nineteenth century ranch life in San Diego County through various presentations and activities.

Students learn about social customs and styles in the 1800s and what a child’s life would have been like on the ranch during that time period. By interacting with ranch animals, students learn how to care for the animals and their function on a ranch. Other activities include, school lessons, classroom etiquette, watering the garden, and making herbal air fresheners called “tussy-mussy.” Another aspect of the program includes a presentation from a County Park ranger about how the ranch land is used today to preserve plants and animals that are native to San Diego County.

Last year, La Vida del Rancho hosted 750 students from a variety of school districts throughout San Diego County. The program is held every Wednesday throughout the traditional school calendar. For more information about the “La Vida del Rancho” program, please call 858-484-7504.

La Vida del Rancho is sponsored by the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation and the San Diego County Parks Society.

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